JOINT SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Concord-Carlisle School Committee Concord School Committee Conference Room 4 & Zoom June 14, 2022

Present: Tracey Marano, Chair, CCSC; CSC

> Sharon Whitt, Vice Chair, CCSC Alexa Anderson, Chair, CSC: CCSC Carrie Rankin, Vice Chair, CSC; CCSC

Courtland Booth, CSC: CCSC Cynthia Rainey, CSC, CCSC

Sara Wilson, CCSC

Present from Administration: Dr. Laurie Hunter, Superintendent of Schools, CPS & CCRSD

Kristen Herbert, Asst. Superintendent of Teaching & Learning, CPS & CCRSD

CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Marano called the CCSC meeting to order at 6:32 PM and then Ms. Anderson called the CSC meeting to order.

CCHS STUDENT UPDATE

CCHS Student Reps Zariah Alves, Harry Crowley, Darcy Keenan-Mills, and Felicity Zhang provided an update from CCHS. They stated that there are a number of successful end of year events including the sophomore semi-formal, "feel-good" finals, the performing arts concert, and a BSU walkout. They shared goals for 2022-23, including increase communications, connection with lower grades, gaining more experience in the SC rep position, participating in trainings, getting feedback from SC members, adding surveys to communicate with students, increasing transparency, including guests at meetings and communicating to students that they are able to attend meetings.

III. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

Ms. Marano welcomed Bob Conry, the new Assistant Superintendent of Finance & Operations and Mr. Conry stated that he was excited about the opportunity and looking forward to starting full time on July 1st.

IV. RECOGNITIONS

CEF Presentation. Concord Education Fund members Trish Siefer, Leah Butler, and Bill Stone spoke about the A. current CEF grants and trends in funding. Mr. Stone stated that \$48,000 has been awarded, noting that the three major grant trends were 1) wellness, diversity and inclusion 2) outdoor learning and 3) scientific innovation. Ms. Butler noted that the past few years have been difficult for fundraising efforts due to COVID, but that the community has continued its support.

V. **READING OF THE MINUTES**

Open Session 4/29/22, 5/10/22, and 5/12/22. Mr. Booth asked that the 5/10/22 minutes be pulled out from the vote and that the word "yesterday" be added to Ms. Boynton's public comment. A motion was made by Ms. Rankin, seconded by Mr. Booth, to approve the open session minutes from 4/29/22 and 5/12/22. The motion was unanimously approved.

CORRESPONDENCE

Ms. Anderson stated that CSC received four emails from a single individual requesting audience with the SC, noting that a few of the emails were also copied to CCSC.

VII. **CHAIRS & LIAISONS REPORT**

Mr. Booth stated that the Select Board met last night and Amanda Kohn, outgoing Sustainability Director, spoke of the working group on town sustainability, EPA grants, the potential for school bus support for electrification, and also referenced the hope that the scope of work for the contracting for the bus depot is underway. He stated that the Finance Audit Committee met earlier in the day, noting that the town audit is clean. He noted the recent GASB changes in accounting principles, including Advisories 84 and 87. He stated that Advisory 87 requires that the ledger reflects capital leases and operating leases, including software leases. He stated that the audit is unusually late this year and is not 100% complete at CCRSD. He noted that CCRSD has to be watchful of the pension and OPEB liabilities, both of which are currently in good shape and noted the recommendation that CCRSD establish and implement procedures to properly report year-end accounts payable in the general ledger.

Ms. Wilson stated that she attended a gathering of the CCAC, noting the strong turnout.

VIII. DISCUSSION

- A. STAR Data Overview. Kristen Herbert, Judy Olson, Olive Bradford, Katie Stahl, and Terry Smolka presented an overview of STAR data. Ms. Herbert stated that STAR 360 by Renaissance is an online assessment in literacy and math, with a screener tool and deeper dives, noting that it is a Department of Education accepted screener for dyslexia. She provided an overview of the history of STAR 360 in the district and explained how to interpret the data in sample student and class reports. Ms. Herbert reviewed the three tiers of interventions: Tier 1 Universal Support, Tier 2 Targeted Support and Tier 3 Intensive Support. Ms. Olson reviewed the elementary literacy and numeracy, reading, and math assessment data. Ms. Bradford reviewed the CMS data, noting that the data gives teachers information about common strengths and weaknesses and helps identify and serve struggling students. Ms. Stahl reviewed the 9th grade data, noting that the data helps inform classroom instruction and practices, as well as RTI. Ms. Herbert summarized STAR 360, stating that the average scores from CPS and CCHS are well above the national norms, noting that growth was seen at every grade level this year in both reading and math.
- B. School Committee Self Evaluation. Ms. Anderson noted that Ms. Presser was not able to attend the meeting, but that she had reiterated the importance of maintaining best practices of keeping the annual self-evaluation, regardless of whether the year is positive or negative, or for any other mitigating special circumstances. Ms. Anderson stated that they discussed a due date of August 19th for completing the survey, with a date of synthesis from MASC in September. She stated that the survey should be mailed out by the end of the week and will be anonymous.
- C. School Committee and Superintendent Relations. Ms. Anderson stated that they are engaged with Rob Evans, the Executive Director of the Human Relations Service out of Wellesley. Ms. Rainey questioned the upcoming session on Thursday night and Ms. Anderson stated that Mr. Evans will be sharing themes he heard throughout the individual meetings to provide advice and ideas to help improve the interpersonal dynamics and communication with each other. Ms. Rainey noted her concern for conducting any deliberations at the meeting.

IX. ADDITIONAL PUBLIC COMMENT

1. Eva Mostoufi, former CCSC member. Ms. Mostoufi asked if STAR testing was done through all CCHS grades, if she could participate in the survey of SC work, and if there was a final verdict on the Superintendent evaluation. Ms. Marano stated that she could not engage in an answer on the STAR data but would get back to her with answers, that there is an action item later on in the meeting regarding the superintendent evaluation and that she could participate in the SC evaluation.

X. ACTION ITEMS

- A. Vote to Approve Adult & Community Education Members. A motion was made by Mr. Booth, for both CSC and CCSC, seconded by Ms. Rainey, for both CSC and CCSC, appoint Allison Pray to the CCACE Advisory Committee for a three year term commencing in July of 2022. The motion was unanimously approved.
- B. Vote to Approve Tuition for Non-Resident Students to CCHS Programs. A motion was made by Ms. Wilson, seconded by Mr. Booth, to approve non-resident student CCHS tuitions at the rate of \$45,000. Dr. Hunter noted that there have been inquiries from other local district interested in enrolling students in the Pathways Program and in order to continue the conversation with them, they need to know what the fee would be. She stated that Ms. Dixson has determined that \$45,000 would be a recommended tuition rate. Ms. Wilson noted that her understanding that SC's were not normally involved in setting tuition rates like this. The motion was unanimously approved.

Dr. Hunter stated that a tuition rate also needed to be set for the Rivers & Revolutions program to continue conversations with other districts that are interested in having students attend the program. She stated that per pupil made the most sense, with a semester rate of \$10,645. A motion was made by Mr. Booth, seconded by Ms. Rainey, to approve the tuition of \$10,645 per semester for the Rivers and Revolutions program for a student or students from a neighboring district. The motion passed unanimously.

- C. Vote to Approve CCHS Trips. A motion was made by Mr. Booth, seconded by Ms. Rainey, to approve the preseason football trip, as proposed. The motion passed unanimously. A motion was made by Mr. Booth, seconded by Ms. Wilson, that the CCHS girls soccer team bonding trip be approved as proposed. The motion was unanimously approved. A motion was made by Mr. Booth, seconded by Ms. Rainey, to approve the Ocean State Cross Country invitational trip, as proposed. The motion passed unanimously.
- D. Vote to Approve Superintendent Evaluation Cycle. A motion was made by Ms. Rankin, seconded by Ms. Rainey, in accordance with the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education guidelines, to move Dr. Laurie Hunter's evaluation cycle from an annual to biannual, as such, the next evaluation will be June of 2023. Mr. Booth and Ms. Rainey noted their concern for moving the cycle to a biannual basis. Ms. Rainey noted that MASC/DESE also encourages annual dipstick/discussions for experienced superintendents, recommending that the SC put a structured cycle in place in the fall for a midyear review. The SC discussed and agreed to have the formal review at the end of the year and have a midyear review in the fall. The motion was unanimously approved.
- E. Vote to Approve Use of FY22 Funds. Dr. Hunter shared the updated FY22 closeout numbers, noting that \$300,000 is still needed for the E&D contribution. She recommended that the remaining balance of \$93,000 be applied toward circuit breaker. A motion was made by Mr. Booth, seconded by Ms. Rainey, to authorize the prepayment of FY2023 tuitions in accordance with MGL Chapter 71, Section 71D, and MGL Chapter 40, Section 4E. The motion was unanimously approved.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn the CCSC meeting was made by Ms. Marano, seconded by Ms. Anderson. A motion to adjourn the CSC meeting was made by Ms. Anderson, seconded by Mr. Booth. The motions were unanimously approved and the meetings adjourned at 8:23 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Erin E. Higgins

Approved: 8.23.22

Abbreviations:

ADL Anti-Defamation League BSU Black Student Union

CCACE Concord Carlisle Adult and Community Education

CCHS Concord-Carlisle High School

CCRSD Concord-Carlisle Regional School District

CCSC Concord-Carlisle Regional District School Committee

CCTA Concord-Carlisle Teachers' Association

CEF Concord Education Fund CMS Concord Middle School

CMSBC Concord Middle School Building Committee

CPS Concord Public Schools
CSC Concord School Committee
DPW Department of Public Works
E&D Excess and Deficiency

DEI Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

DPH Department of Public Health
ELL English Language Learner

FINCOM Finance Committee

GASB Governmental Accounting Standards Board

LLI Leveled Literacy Intervention
MTSS Multi-Tiered System of Support
OPEB Other Post-Employment Benefits

PD Professional Development RTI Response to Intervention

SC School Committee

SEPAC Special Education Parent Advisory Council